



Fly Lines and By-Lines

Lee Wulff Chapter of Trout Unlimited - A local chapter of America's leading nonprofit organization committed to the conservation, protection, and restoration of North American coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

See us at: <http://www.leewulfftu.org>

January 2015 President's Message

Happy 2015 everyone!! I hope you all enjoyed a great Christmas and New Year's Day. The snow and cold we expect this time of year is here. And right now there's plenty of cold !!!

Every year in January, after I put all the Christmas decorations away, I assess my empty looking house and simplified schedule, and begin to reorganize. I go through my documents and records, closets, & pantry to purge any unwanted items and de clutter my life in general. Things tend to slow down a great deal and the weather's not very conducive to outdoor fishing. Sorry, don't mean to disregard our ice fishermen out there. Kudos to you guys and gals who enjoy braving the elements ! I'm more of a fair weather fisherman! For me this is a great time for reflection. And lots and lots of fly tying , preferably in front of the fireplace!

This is a time for reflection and reorganizing for Lee Wulff also. Our next board meeting will be held on January 21. We have a lot of room for growth and improvement, so we will have plenty to discuss. We will be considering where we want to take the chapter this year as we reprioritize. By the way, members are always welcome to join us. Please contact me (flyfisher619@gmail.com) if you are interested. I'd be happy to share the agenda with you.

Some great news! Jerry Sapp has some encouraging information about the conservation project we initiated last summer on Weister Creek. I'll let him explain in more detail at the meeting. From what I've heard though, we all can look forward to some opportunities for conservation work days this year! Don't forget Jerry will be conducting fly tying classes at Cabela's beginning next Tuesday January 13 at 6 p.m. See the newsletter for details.

We have a nice program planned this month. Jim Bartelt from Spring Creek Specialties will be joining us to share some great tips on fishing the Driftless area. I had the good fortune to meet him at our DuPage Rivers Fly Tyers meeting this past fall, and he gave a terrific presentation with some interesting recommendations. I know you all will not

want to miss him! Please remember to RSVP Scott Roane (royalwulff01@yahoo.com) so we have enough pizza waiting for you!

Tony Sabol has graciously stepped forward to help Mark Domagalski to maintain our website and e mailing systems. Please make sure to acknowledge Tony and Mark's efforts to make the web site terrific! We also want to thank Chris Young for continuing to do an awesome job of keeping our Facebook page fresh and exciting!

Folks, you are the future of this chapter, your chapter. We want to have something special here, so everyone boasts about what a dynamic and unique group we are! Your interest and participation are vital to making this possible. I am reaching out to all of you to consider the future direction for Lee Wulff.

Be healthy and happy! Spend time with family and friends. Hug your spouse, your kids, your dog or cat! One of my favorite songs by Steven Curtis Chapman is a song entitled "Live out Loud". He sings:

"Wake the neighbors

Get the word out

Come on, crank up the music, climb a mountain and shout

This is life we've been given, made to be lived out

So, la, la, la, la, live out loud "

Cheers to you all for 2015!!! Live long and prosper! I look forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting! Meg

Where We Meet

Village Pizza and Pub

145 N. Kennedy Drive

Carpentersville, IL

Social Hour: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. with pizza and pop served for \$15.00 per person

Main program: 7:30 p.m.

Other menu choices, cocktails and spirits are available for purchase.

Please RSVP to Scott Roane at royalwulff01@yahoo.com by Tuesday Jan. 13th so we know how many pizzas to preorder.

Our January Speaker Jim Bartelt



Jim has a lifetime of fly fishing experience and has been guiding anglers for trout on the Driftless Area spring creeks since 1990. He is a professional fly casting instructor and veteran Fly Fishing School Instructor. Jim, now a retired teacher, had taught for 35 years at Madison East High School. He has spent his entire career sharing knowledge with others. Let him share his knowledge of fly fishing and the intricacies of his home waters with you.

A Few Picture from our 2014 Christmas Party







Gordon wins the Grand Prize - A Helios fly rod from Orvis



I look into... my fly box, and think about all the elements I should consider in choosing the perfect fly: water temperature, what stage of development the bugs are in, what the fish are eating right now. Then I remember what a guide told me: 'Ninety percent of what a trout eats is brown and fuzzy and about five-eighths of an inch long.' Allison Moir

If I'm not going to catch anything, then I'd rather not catch anything on flies.

-- Bob Lawless

Dreading the Winter doldrums, the snow, the cold, the long weekends with no fishing?? Here's a few upcoming fishing events to put on your calendar this winter. We'll add more as we find them

Jerry Sapp from Lee Wulff will teach Fly tying classes starting on Tuesday Feb. 13th at Cabela's in Hoffman Estates. Class runs from 6 to 8 pm every Tuesday.

The first class of the month will be a beginning tiers class and help from experienced tiers is appreciated. Classes will continue through March. This year we are using a different camera and hopefully things will be clearer.

Schedule:

Jan. 13 Bead head wooly bugger

Jan. 20 Catskill classic dry flies

Jan. 27 Biot nymphs

Feb.3. Flashback Pheasant tail nymph

Feb. 10 Muddler minnow

Feb. 17 Sparkle pupa caddis emerger

Feb. 24 Hellgrammite nymph and other smallmouth flies

Mar. 3 Elk hair caddis

Mar. 10 Double Bunny streamers

Mar. 17 Hoppers with a twist

Mar. 24 Ants and Crickets

Mar. 31 Deer hair spinning demonstration



THE 32ND ANNUAL SWTU

ICEBREAKER

JANUARY 17TH 2015

PROMEGA CENTER

5445 East Cheryl Pkwy, Fitchburg WI

JOIN US FOR:

- A Fabulous Speaker
- Master Fly Tying Demonstrations
- Exciting Bucket Raffles
- Kids "Stream Explorers" Activity Room
- Delicious Lunch
- Much, Much More!

ALSO FEATURING:

HENRY CYRNS - TEACHING KIDS FLY TYING



FEATURED SPEAKER

MIKE LAWSON

HENRY'S FORK ANGLERS

Mike is a noted author, fly tier, outfitter and conservationist. His book, *Spring Creeks*, has already become a classic and his "Fly-Fishing Guide to the Henry's Fork" is a must read for anyone headed to that world-class destination.



JUST
\$10
FREE for Vets!
with Military ID

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [SWTU.ORG](http://www.swtu.org)

Noted Author, fly tier and conservationist Mike Lawson is the featured speaker for the 32nd annual Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Icebreaker set for Saturday, January 17th, 2015

The day long chapter fundraiser will be at the Promega Center in Fitchburg, Wisconsin (just south of Madison, WI). Doors will open at 8:30am and there will be the always fantastic bucket raffles (bamboo fly rod , artwork, rods, reels, gear, etc.) will be distributed at around 3pm.

As usual they will have some of the regions most dynamic fly tiers demonstrating some of their favorite and most effective patterns throughout the day. Admission is \$10.00. It has been their history to let youthful fly fishers under the age of 12 in for free as long as they are accompanied by a parent. This year they are proud to also invite both retired and active military personnel to their event; they will receive free admission with their military ID card.

More information, including a detailed schedule for the day, will be found on the SWTU website <http://www.swtu.org/icebreaker.html>

Fox Valley Trout Unlimited announces the
**14th Annual
Cabin Fever Day!**
a fishing expo



Saturday, January 24, 2015
Grand Meridian, Appleton
2621 N. Oneida Street

9 AM - 4 PM

Show Events include:

Expert Speaker Program "Beyond Trout, Tactics for Success"

(10 am) Ira Giese, Expert Angler & Master Fly Tyer
Fly Fishing for Pan Fish

(11 am) Abe Downs & Dan Boggs, Blackwater Fly Fishing
Fly Fishing for Smallmouth Bass

(1:30 pm) Wendy Williamson, Hayward Fly Fishing Co.
Fly Fishing for Musky

Expert Fly Tyers

Including and showcasing youth tyers

Raffle to win a Scott Grady fly rod

Tonkin cane split bamboo 4 wt. 6' 3" two piece

Tailored to small dry fly fishing patterned after a 1920s-50s Paul H. Young Rod

Silent Auction and Bucket Raffles

Casting Clinic

WI Guides and DNR Booths

Fly Fishing Shops

Fly Tying Materials

Rod & Net Building Booths

Fishing Equipment Reps

HUGE Used Equipment Sale



visit foxvalleytu.org
for more info and directions
Lunch will be available

\$10 at the door, spouses and under 18 free

**Once again FVTU is raffling off a handcrafted fly rod made by nationally known rod builder
Scott Grady.**

The offering is a Tonkin cane split bamboo 4wt. 6" 3" two piece rod.

This rod is tailored to small dry fly fishing patterned after a 1920-50s Paul H. Young Rod

Read about Scott and his achievements:

http://www.bamboorodmaking.com/html/scott_grady_biography.html

All Canada Show - Pheasant Run Mega Center, St. Charles, IL. Jan 8-11
<http://www.allcanada.com/>

Chicago Musky Expo - Sears Center Arena, Hoffman Estates, IL. Jan. 9-11
<http://muskieexpo.com/chicago>

Chicago Outdoor Sports Show - Rosemont Convention Center, Rosemont, IL. Jan. 21-25
<http://www.chicagosportsmenshow.com/>

Illinois Fish & Feather Expo - Interstate Center, Bloomington, IL Jan. 24-26
<http://www.illinoisfishandfeather.com/>

Chicagoland Fishing Travel & Outdoor Expo - Schaumburg Convention Center, Schaumburg, IL. Jan 29-Feb. 1, 2015
<http://www.sportshows.com/chicago/>

Rockford Boat, Vacation and Fishing Show - Indoor Sports Center, Loves Park, IL. Feb. 20-22
<http://www.landroproductions.com/boat-vacation-fishing/>

Midwest Fly Fishing Show - Macomb Community College Expo Center, Warren, MI. March 14 -15
<http://midwestflyfishingexpo.com>

My wife wonders why all women do not seek anglers for husbands. She has come in contact with many in her life with me and she claims that they all have a sweetness in their nature which others lack.

-- Ray Bergman

Bob Olach's Fly Of the Month

Palmered Flies

As most of our LW Chapter members know, my “go-to” dry fly is a variation of Ed Story’s Crackleback pattern. In addition to the Crackleback, I also tie (and fish) several other “palmered hackled dressings” that also work quite well and bring up a lot of fish, even if those that aren’t rising at the time.

In going through some old files, I found some information dated 18 December 2006 but I can’t find any record of ever sending it to be included in one of our Chapter’s newsletters.

The enclosed pic was scanned quite a few years back when I was using fewer hackle turns on my palmered dressings than I do now. Several years ago, I switched from doing 2 hackle turns at the end of the hook shank and 5 ½ hackle turns towards the hook eye. Since then, I’ve added 1 additional hackle turn at **BOTH** the end of the hook shank and also on the body hackle.



Here’s the info on the palmered flies, modified slightly as I tie them:

Red Palmer (T. Pilling – 1794)

Hook – Daiichi #1190 dry fly barbless hook (sizes 12 - 16)

Thread – Red Pearsall Gossamer Silk or Danville 6/0

Body – Green peacock with gold wire ribbing

Hackle – Reddish brown saddle hackle

Black Palmer (taken from T. Hofland’s Book “The British Angler’s Manual” dated 1848)

Hook – Daiichi #1190 dry fly barbless hook (sizes 12 - 16)

Thread – Black Pearsall Gossamer Silk or Danville 6/0

Body – Black peacock (original calls for black ostrich but the peacock looks to be more durable) with silver wire ribbing

Hackle – Black saddle hackle

Soldier Palmer (also (taken from T. Hofland’s Book “The British Angler’s Manual dated 1848)

Hook – Daiichi #1190 dry fly barbless hook (sizes 12 - 16)

Thread – Red Pearsall Gossamer Silk or Danville 6/0

Body – Red Pearsall floss with gold wire ribbing

Tail – Red wool

Hackle – Reddish brown saddle hackle



Grumpy's Page by Kurt Haberl

Sometimes things don't go well. Take, for example, our last Trout Unlimited chapter Christmas party, usually a wonderful time with good food, good drinks, glistening decorations, fishing buddies who have cleaned themselves up for a night, dressy wives looking beautiful enough for red carpet treatment, and buckets for raffle tickets to win fly fishing gear. What could go wrong?

It started at our table when one of our newbie's, Andy Hinckeler, who had already been assigned the nickname of "Hook Line and Sinker," at the very end of the evening won a beautifully etched wooden fly box made by Dewey, one of our oldest members. Dewey was most known for using the same eight-pound tippet for three years and for not catching fish. It was a beautiful fly box, and Andy showed it first to Schnoz with great pride, saying, "Schnoz, Schnoz, look what I won!"

Schnoz looked at it admiringly, then opened it up, and his smile turned to a dark scowl.

"Oh my God," he said, "Dewey, what have you done? I can't believe you would stoop so low."

That caught my attention and I looked over Schnoz's shoulder at the beautifully carved box and saw the two flies inside. One was a beadhead flashback pheasant tail, and the other was - the Black Widower.

"Dewey," I said across the table, "How could you?"

"But, but," Dewey sputtered, "I also put in the luckiest fly anyone's ever used so they'd cancel out."

"What's going on?" my wife and Schnoz's wife said at the same time.

Schnoz sighed, shook his head, and said, "Dewey put this beautiful flyboy in the raffle and put the Black Widower inside. Two years ago an old guy on the Bad Axe gave it to him and Dewey hasn't caught a fish since. It's hexed. The person who has the Black Widower in his box will not catch anything except suckers and is guaranteed to slip and fall in the stream at least once every trip. It's a terrible curse."

"I couldn't help it," Dewey said. "I'm so tired of not catching anything. All around the campfire you guys talk about the fish you catch."

"You passed it on to our newest member," I said. "Why didn't you just put it in Schnoz's box when he wasn't looking?"

"You don't understand," Dewey said.

That's when things began to happen. Schnoz's wife Huldy elbowed him. I've been around them long enough to know what that elbow meant. He sighed and shook his head. She elbowed him again. Across the table, Mary Compson, one of our most successful members whose brother was a guide, looked at Hook Line and Sinker and said, "Andy, I wonder if you would trade me this Lamson 4-weight reel I won for that flyboy and the two flies in it?"

"I dunno," Hook, Line and Sinker said. "I don't have many flies."

Huldy elbowed Schnoz again. "I tell you what," Schnoz said sadly, "If you'll trade me that flyboy for this custom net I won, I'll throw in one copy of every fly I have." Huldy nodded approvingly.

That's when I made the mistake of looking at my wife and she arched one eyebrow at me.

"Andy," I said. "I'll trade you this steel cooler and the rain jacket I won if you'll give me that flyboy."

"But I can't decide," Hook Line and Sinker said. "I don't want everybody mad at me."

That's when Wet Curtis stepped in and said, "Say, Grumpy, Schnoz and Dewey, can I see you three for a minute - in the men's room?"

We followed him like schoolboys in trouble, mumbling the whole time that a grown man shouldn't need help in the men's room.

"Here's the deal," Curtis said when we got inside, "it's not fair to put Hook Line and Sinker on the spot like that. He doesn't know that we're all sort of mad at each other - all the time, so what we're going to do is give him our stuff plus our best flies, and we're going to pass around that fly with the curse on it. I'll take it on one trip and Schnoz, you'll take it the next."

"That's not fair," Schnoz said. "You fall in the river on every trip anyway, so the only penalty for you is not catching any fish."

"If I take that Black Widower, I'll probably fall in two or three times on every trip, Wet Curtis said.

"But I really like the net I won," Schnoz said.

"Schnoz," Wet Curtis said, "you've already got a net. Grumpy, don't you have a cooler and a rain jacket already?"

"Yeah," I admitted.

"Okay, then it's settled," Curtis said. "And if anyone can't go on an outing, then he has to take the box with the curse in it, and keep it until the next trip."

We shuffled back out to the table. Word had spread, and there piled around Hook Line and Sinker was pretty much every prize won in the raffle that night. While Wet Curtis explained

how we were going to deal with the Black Widower, some of the gear was still being brought over and put on the pile by the spouses of other members who had heard about Hook Line and Sinker's calamity. My stuff and Schnoz's was at the bottom of the pile.

"Aw, man," Schnoz said. "I really liked that net."

"Not as much as I liked that Lamson reel," Mary said.

"Wow, that Black Widower is the luckiest fly I've ever seen," Hook Line and Sinker said.

We finished our drinks, nibbled cookies, helped Hook Line and Sinker carry his new gear out to the car, then went back in to get our coats.

Annie arched her eyebrow at me again, so I said, "I'll take the box first. The fishing isn't usually so good on our early spring outing anyway." I took the sad but beautiful flyboy from the table and opened it up. The Black Widower was gone. Schnoz saw it too. He smiled and we looked at our wives as if we'd just gotten away with breaking house rules, but neither Huldy nor Annie would look at us.

The next season will certainly be an interesting one. Now we won't even know for sure if we're being cursed, and if anyone doesn't catch fish, he will blame it on the Black Widower. Nights around the campfire are going to get very boring. If I ever meet the old man who gave Dewey that hexed fly, I'm going to push him in the river, curse or no curse. I'll push him in; Schnoz will help me, and Wet Curtis will hold him under until he takes the hex off that fly. We'll show him what it's like when things don't go well. We've had things not go well in our chapter for a long time, so no Black Widower is going to scare us. Hah!

Chapter Officers

- President** **Meg Gallagher**
2264 Westminister St.
Wheaton, IL 60189
prez@leewulfftu.org
- Vice-President** **Jerry Sapp**
375 S. Batemen Cir.
Barrington, IL
viceprez@leewulfftu.org
- Secretary** **Matt Gregory**
207 Walters Lane Unit 1B
Itasca, Il 60143
(630) 209-4878
MGreg53862@aol.com
- Treasurer** **Scott Roane**
13391 Canary Lane
Huntley, Il 60142
royalwulff01@yahoo.com
- Newsletter Editor** **Dennis Higham**
33W112 Shagbark Lane
Wayne, IL 60184
dennishigham@sbcglobal.net

PS: Any grammatical errors spotted in
this newsletter were purposefully put
there to keep you on you're toes.

PPS: You Are Welcome.